

OTHER NETWORKS

FOR PEOPLE WHO WANT TO LEARN ABOUT NETWORKING

Vol 2 No 4

PUBLIC INTEREST MEDIA PROJECT

Fall 1988

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This newsletter is about networks of people.

It also deals with a philosophy of human communication and with techniques for group communication -- especially when the groups in question are physically distant or for some reason can't work together face-to-face.

THE EDITOR-IN-CHIEF'S FRONT WINDOW . . .

Time marches on and doesn't wait for us to publish our newsletter. But eventually we get back on track, and you, our fortunate subscribers, get another issue of *OTHER NETWORKS*.

We should note a couple of additions to our staff. Sally and I had our first child, a daughter named Shoshana, back in December. She's now 9 months old and loves to bang away at my keyboard!

Our second "staff addition" is Paul Sank. Paul has worked with us over a period of several years, and now has found that his interests are in publishing. Paul contracts with *OTHER NETWORKS* to provide editorial services, pushing me "upstairs" to the lofty title of "Editor-In-Chief." We have been formulating plans to actually publish on a more regular schedule, now that Paul has taken over much of the work.

You'll notice, I'm sure, the handy work of our staff artist, Nancy McCiernan. Nancy also did the illustrations for the booklet about correspondence groups that we recently published in cooperation with Action Linkage. See the back cover for more information about how to get a copy of the booklet, titled *Letter Groups*.

This fall and winter we will be sponsoring a unique six-month **correspondence seminar** with author Thomas Berry. The first month, all participants will receive a copy of Mr. Berry's paper titled: "Bioregions: The Context for Reinhabiting the Earth." And for the following five consecutive months each participant will receive their own copy of all the seminar letters. Seminar members will be encouraged, but not required, to submit a single page letter each month, addressing Mr. Berry or the other members of the seminar, for inclusion in the seminar mailing. The seminar will be limited to 50 persons and will cost \$10. The **deadline for participation requires that you send your money before October 31, 1988.** To join, send your \$10 to: Thomas Berry Seminar, c/o Public Interest Media Project, PO Box 14066, Philadelphia PA 19123.

- Stan Pokras

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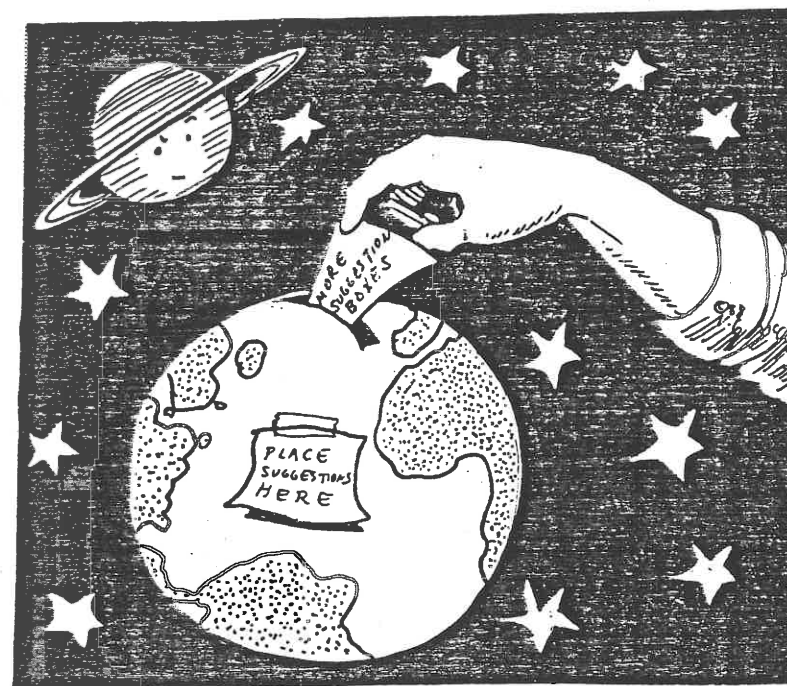
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Idea Husbandry: Toward a "Global Suggestion Box"

by Gregory Wright

How many of us, while reading an article, using a product, engaging in conversation, or falling asleep, have experienced that delightful bolt-from-the-blue flash of inspiration, the unbidden but marvelous coming to mind of an original idea? And how many of us have pondered it briefly, perhaps mentioning it to a friend, then consigned it to oblivion, assuming that if it really is a good idea then someone must already be doing it, or deciding that it would be fruitless to pursue it without certain resources?

IDEA HUSBANDRY

There is a tremendous quantity of creative cognition going on out there. Ideas, insights, proposals and propositions which may be valuable to society come into people's minds by the millions. Many of them are available for development, free but for the price of giving public credit where credit is due. Their creative originators can't pursue or develop them, because they lack the expertise, the confidence, the time, or the money. The result is ideational waste,

and the thought came to me that we need to help one another cultivate ideas. I came to feel that "idea husbandry" is an idea whose time is at hand.

My dictionary defines "husbandry" as "the care of a household" as well as "the scientific control and management of a branch of farming." So it doesn't seem that far-fetched to stretch the notion of "raising something from a seed" to include raising ideas from conception to completion. One approach to this would be to organize a "global suggestion box".

I invite all of you to consider yourselves members of a team. We'll brainstorm about it; we'll attract interest in it; and together we'll implement it.

GLOBAL SUGGESTION BOX (GSB)

As our first concrete step, practically speaking, we'll probably establish a microcosm of the global suggestion box, i.e., an electronic bulletin board, a computer conference, or a "many-to-many" letter-writing forum, to gather ideas about it and stimulate interest in ways to make it grow. If even one computer network or information service carries this microcosm in the near future, then I think I can say that we'll have launched the global suggestion box (we'll call it GSB for short now).

We can shape the GSB category by category, in no particular order. Interested individuals, professional organizations, think tanks, schools, publishers, and other agencies can begin to collect concepts, ideas, and existing databases and contribute these to the GSB database(s) in their categories of concern. Eventually we can appoint or elect a single individual to manage each category in the system. At the same time, we can devise structures of sub-categories under the main categories. Also, it's likely that our idea-classification scheme will eventually use appropriate existing categorizing systems (e.g., the Standard Industrial Classification in consumer goods and services categories).

Ideas and proposals with distinct time value could be tagged "urgent" in the GSB. And we'll index ideas and proposals not only by subject, but also by the categories of people who most likely will find them

interesting, e.g., types of organizations, or maybe even specific companies, agencies, and prominent individuals.

PARTICIPATORY IDEATION

The best use of the GSB would be someone's (e.g. an entrepreneur's) turning to the GSB, finding a hot idea, and launching it. Some of the would-be inventions, proposed innovations, and miscellaneous proposals in a GSB would be in final form or nearly so. Many others would be incomplete notions, mind prods for other people.

A GSB would implement "participatory ideation" comprehensively, coherently, and productively: it would give intelligent, interested persons a chance to participate in an ongoing synergistic cross-seeding of creative minds and its consequences. It

Some of the would-be inventions, proposed innovations, and miscellaneous proposals in a GSB would be in final form or nearly so. Many others would be incomplete notions, mind prods for other people.

would also motivate more creative thinking.

How might a GSB and its operation be made financially viable? A GSB should be able to sustain itself the way other commercially-accessible data banks do. Or the GSB might operate as a publicly-financed public information utility, perhaps under the auspices of one or more national or international government bodies or non-profit organizations. Since a GSB would be massive (the bigger, the more valuable), the cost would be considerable.

Realistically, a GSB or its like would start out with Americans, Europeans, and

Japanese people working on it, if it's that broad. Or people in a Socialist or Communist nation, such as the People's Republic of China, could start it. If an agency of the United Nations participated, its scope would broaden more quickly. The more diverse and widely scattered the contributors, the better.

People of a single nation, e.g., India, or a closely affiliated group of nations, e.g., Scandinavia, who undertake a GSB, might legislate a public-domain status for all concepts, innovations, and improvements on the system within their jurisdiction. Mass-copyrighted status might apply for people in any other country. The ideal, however, is a global international system whose entire contents stay in the public domain, with mandatory credit-where-credit-is-due.

SOCIAL INVENTORS, UNITE!

I am making this proposal as a rather frustrated idea-maker and "social inventor." For the past almost twenty years I've been hatching and presenting bright ideas only to see most of them languish for want of attention and interest. I send a letter and get no answer; I talk to someone in person, and it leads nowhere; this has been the rule. I'm most happy to give my ideas away to people who can use them, but even that takes effort, time, and money. If only I could simply donate them to a GSB! Contributing an original idea to society would be so much easier.

We humans of the late twentieth century need to develop as many better ways of running the world as we can, as fast as we can. Ours is a time of massive problems and great opportunities, and both require of us that we pool our intelligence as effectively as we can.

Who wants to help make it happen? We need your creative concepts and bright ideas now!

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Small World Message Service

Here's a place to store your bright ideas for others to pick up! **Small World** is a regular feature of *OTHER NETWORKS*. See bottom for details.

Information hotline 24 hours a Day! Lets share Information. What I'm Especially fond of Doing is Streaching Money, finding Resources + helping people to think about their Life Decisions. Want No Charge. P. G. Green, 606 Truman Ave, Key West FL 33040, 305-294-5786

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Small World is a file of messages the Media Project keeps, both to serve our readers and to show a continuous example of a stored message system that facilitates networking. We keep all messages on file for a year, and we print them in this newsletter at least once. You can find out more from the yellow form we've enclosed.

A COMMUNICATIONS KIT Ideas and Queries to Help You and Me Communicate Better with Others

by Pat Underhill

AMATEUR PRESS ASSOCIATIONS (APAs)

Edited periodicals (newsletters, magazines) and unedited periodicals (APAs, multilogues) both have their advantages: Newsletters often offer a high density of relevant information. APAs offer open communication, and interest in them seems to be rising.

Unfortunately most small periodicals offer neither. Call them "half-APAs". A typical half-APA is only lightly edited and includes just about anything that the editor takes a fancy to, and so, like an APA, has a low density of relevant information. Yet it lacks the APA's one big attraction:

guaranteed publication of unedited material.

Full APAs are now the only publication for which I write special pieces. For edited magazines I now write only what could go in many different publications. (Usually I send no-return photocopies to one publication at a time, rather than simultaneously to many.) I used to write letters-to- editors and articles tailored to particular magazines -- I get a box full of rejects which I can't submit elsewhere without extensive rewriting (if at all).

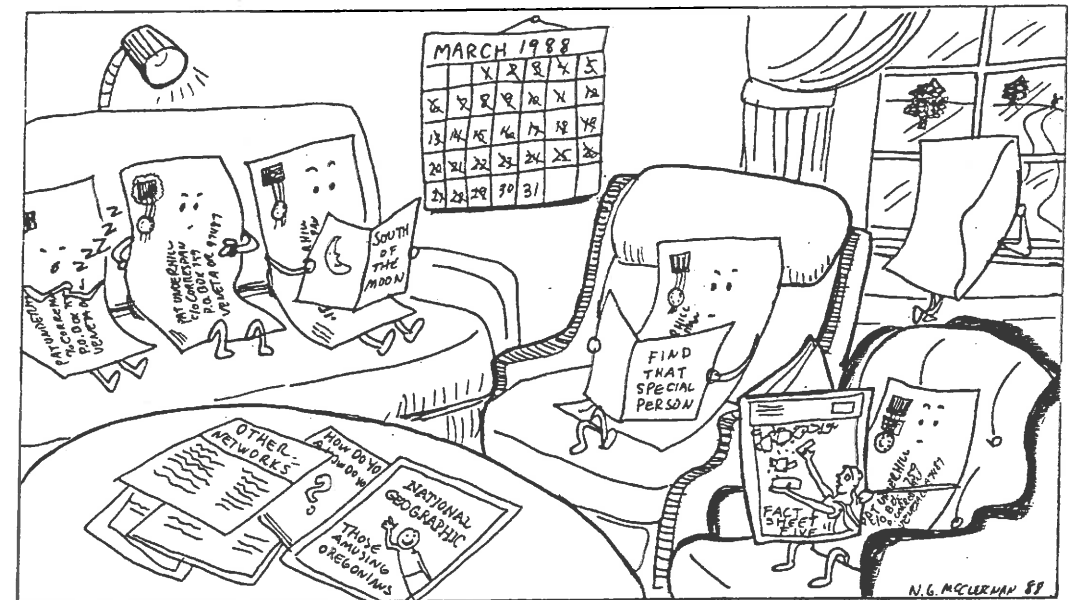
The traditional type of APA, wherein each member makes her own copies and mails them to the editor, is fine for a local organization with regular meetings or with a frequently visited place where most

members can drop off and pick up copies. But if most members are widely scattered and must use the mail, having an organizing editor (OE) do most of the copying is more convenient, usually less expensive, and allows faster and more reliable delivery (by first class mail rather than book rate).

APA PRICE AND VALUE

Almost every editor and publisher values her own output highly. That's understandable; else why write or publish? But she is unrealistic if she expects many readers to value her words enough to pay \$15, \$30, or more, a year for them. \$15 a year isn't much for me. But no one publication can fill such a large part of my information needs. I'm potentially interested in hundreds of publications, and I can't afford them all, so price carries a lot of weight with me.

I find I generally get more, or better, information if I subscribe to (or share, or swap) many inexpensive publications (and other media) rather than take a few costly ones. So I almost never subscribe to anything costing more than \$10 a year (or



"When I'm away, the mail just sits and waits . . ."

\$10 total, if I'm buying a book or recording).

Even if I get a special subsidy, a high regular price is a turn-off. Either the publisher is doing it mostly for the money (not out of enthusiasm for the subject), or the publisher is extravagant, or inept, and unable to keep costs down. Neither speaks well for the publisher. Also, most of the readers will be money addicts and status chasers with whom I share few interests.

Low cost is especially vital for APAs, with their low "jewel-to-junk" ratios. (Since few readers will agree on what is a jewel and what is junk, I see no way to filter out the junk and still guarantee unedited publication. Junk is tolerable -- if it's cheap.) Some conceivable ways to keep an APA publication compact and light, thus inexpensive to copy and mail:

- 1) Let members reproduce and deliver it themselves (don't mail it).
- 2) Have very few members.
- 3) Limit the amount of material each member can put in.
- 4) Photoreduce when copying.

The second alternative seems to offer no advantage over corresponding directly or exchanging personal-zines. The third alternative is essentially an ad paper; it's useful for initial contacts, but it doesn't allow feedback or elaboration. The fourth alternative, photoreduction, either onto paper (4 or more pages on one) or onto microfiche (with 100 or more pages on a 4x6 card), seems best for most APAs.

Photoreduction APAs are also easier to keep accessible. Yes, using a magnifier is a nuisance, but would you rather store endless crates? All of the APAs I have stayed in are ones which do considerable reducing (most 4-on-1). (I dropped The Connection when it changed from 4-on-1 to 2-on-1 and increased its price.)

APA QUALITY

I've tried several APAs, multilogues, and other many-to-many periodicals. I can say that the quality of writing has been surprisingly high -- better than in many an edited periodical.

My biggest complaint has been with the subject matter. I see mostly rehashes of the mass media. Most APA participants consider themselves independent thinkers,

self-actualizers, skeptics, iconoclasts, anarchists, individualists, etc., and, in fact, many have done or are doing interesting things. Yet, ironically, many others write mostly about what they've seen on TV or read in newspapers, and they have little or no first-hand knowledge.

What I'd like to say more about is that I've been disappointed by the generally low goodies-to-garbage ratios, though some have been better than others:

I don't like MINACs (minimum required writing activity) because they encourage junk submissions. I favor MAXACs which offer incentives to readers who submit material appropriate for their APA.

SUUP (Selection Unedited Unretyped Periodical) is an APA variant I'd like to try, if and when I stay in one place long enough to handle the mail. One SUUP I participate in, APAEROS, awards subscription extensions for favorite pages. At first readers were asked to rate each page, with ratings averaged to decide winners. But not many bothered to vote, so now the OE awards extensions, which could result in the OE's having undue influence on the SUUP's contents, especially since disfavored contributors tend to drop out.

To go even further, I prefer that the OEs postpone their comments on an issue, to the next issue. This gives all readers an equal opportunity to comment. (One APA with an OE, a multilogue, prints separate debates between each participant and the OE rather than issue-filling discussions among a number of participants.)

QUÉRIES

I'd prefer a mechanism which allows an APA (or SUUP) to change OEs without greatly changing emphasis. Suggestions?

I no longer write anything for a particular publication unless I feel certain that they'll publish it. How to decide who gets invitations to a SUUP and still guarantee publication (after the initial phase when the "organizing eclectic" does it)?

What structural features encourage centeredness and usefulness in an APA? Does it simply depend on the OE's personality?

If you have some experience with APAs, how did they function? What were their problems? Solutions? (Name them or don't, as you prefer.)

I'm looking for inexpensive newsletters to subscribe to, edited, or unedited (APAs). They need to be inexpensive, because I buy dozens and the prices add up. Also, the pricy ones are directed to businesses, which can deduct them from taxes. I'm more interested in patterns and devices than in how to avoid quarrels with friends and relatives, in person-to-person communications than in broadcast-type, and I'm not interested in how to sway the masses. Because I travel so much, I can't play OE, but I will join and contribute to any efforts I find worthwhile. I will appreciate your recommendations.

SUGGESTED READING

FACTSHEET FIVE is a quarterly directory (approximately 64 pages, 8 1/2 x 11) containing reviews (each approx. 100 words) of several hundred periodicals and recordings. It is the most up-to-date such guide I know of. It's not the most complete, but it includes reviews of further sources. From Mike Gunderloy, 6 Arizona Ave, Rensselaer NY 12144 (518)479-3086.

HOW DO YOU DO A HOW TO DO?

Advice for publishers and those thinking of publishing edited newsletters and pamphlets (not APAs). Useful raps about expectations, subjects, and procedures. (Doesn't delve into hardware.) 4 pages, 8 1/2 x 11, 1985. \$1 from Light Living Library, POB 190, Philomath, OR 97370.

A DO-IT-YOURSELF GUIDE TO OFFSET PRINTING, by Merritt Clifton.

"How to buy a good used press, how to build your own page-size camera and solar plate-burner for ten bucks with no tools at all..." I haven't seen this, but I've heard people recommend it. \$2.50 from Samisdat, Box 129, Richford, VT 05476.

SOUTH OF THE MOON is a directory of APAs. The edition I've seen, #20, September 1984, is a little dated for addresses (many APAs change OEs frequently), but it includes many APAs not found in large, more general periodical directories. (Most APAs don't advertise outside their immediate circles.) 32 pages, 5 1/2 x 8 1/2. May still be available for \$1 from Martin Horvat, 112 East Burnett Street,

Stayton, OR 97383.

OTHER COMMUNICATIONS TOOLS

AN 800-NUMBER MESSAGE

SERVICE, or something like that, for people who travel widely. (I'm often around phones but rarely have one of my own.) Ideally I could use it when I need it without having to maintain membership. (My use would be sporadic). But how might it be paid for? Heard of anything?

DECENTRALIZED NETWORKING TECHNIQUES.

Do you know of any APAs appropriate for this? I'd hoped to use MAPA (Microfiche APA) but have yet to see an issue (MAPA was announced over a year ago). The only other APAs I take part in (APAEROS, on sex and personal relations, is one; Pacific Linkage, on West Coast alternatives, is another, if it's still going, but I haven't seen an issue since mid-1986) don't seem appropriate. I've stopped listing my networking stuff (under the name Anet Paradox) in periodical directories because it's hard for me to get mail.

MICROFICHE. How do you make it or get it made? (I've read that most commercial microfiche companies can't do publications well or inexpensively.) Is it just a matter of photographing the material, piecing the negatives together, and making contact prints, or what? Who sells supplies?

TROKES, also called drops, pass pails, etc. I'm interested in how they have been used in various cultures, primitive and modern, for communication and trade. Trokes offer some advantages over mail, phone, or face-to-face meeting, and they hold some disadvantages. Often, they complement those other modes. Though I'm interested in physical forms, I'm more interested in ways to set up exchanges among persons who know one another only slightly or not at all. So far my experience with trokes has involved only friends of friends.

COMPUTER-AIDED HAM RADIO. I've been told that ham radio is fine for gossiping with whoever happens to be within range and listening, but that it's not very practical for communicating with a particular person,

because reception at much distance requires that atmospheric conditions be just right. You may wait hours or days for reception to be possible, and then your friend may not be listening. It seems to me that computers might help. I imagine something like this: I load my message into my computer. It keeps trying to get through. My friend's computer keeps listening until it gets the message. My friend occasionally checks her computer for messages. (Neither of us has to sit at her radio for hours, waiting on the sky.) Is anything like this being done?

LONG DISTANCE RADIO

SIGNALING with little power. (Someone suggested this to me several years ago. I don't know much about radio, but I do know about statistics, and this sounds feasible.) Connect two or more two-way radios to personal computers. At the sending end, the computer puts out a distinctive signal and broadcasts it continuously for several minutes (or as long as it needs to). At the receiving end, the person listening can hear nothing but static (because the signal is very weak), but the computer keeps correlating until it identifies the signal. (Supposedly radar experts use this technique to locate planets. It's sort of like discovering irregularities in a roulette wheel by tallying the results of a very large number of spins. The results of a few spins are nearly random, but after thousands of spins, significant differences show up.) The set-up would be too slow to talk over, but it could turn on a light to which the users have assigned a meaning.

SIMPLIFIED ITALIAN-SPANISH-PORTUGUESE.

There have been a number of artificial languages devised to aid international communication. The only one I'm acquainted with (slightly) is Esperanto. Esperanto is much easier to learn, its proponents claim, than any natural language. However it can be understood well only by people who have learned it. (You can't travel around speaking only Esperanto and have everybody understand.) Are there any widely understood artificial languages? What I'm looking for in particular is a simplified combination of Italian, Spanish and Portuguese. I believe that those languages, and several minor languages,

are quite similar, both in vocabulary and grammar; they're similar enough that almost all Latin Americans and most southern Europeans could readily understand a blend of the three. (The natives' answers wouldn't come across so clearly, but maybe it wouldn't be any worse than if the traveler had tried to learn the natural language.) Where can I find out what artificial languages are available?

FINDING A SPECIAL PERSON

(another exercise in statistics.) Many people are looking for, and having great difficulty finding, someone with rare traits or combinations of traits. (They may be seeking a companion or partner, or someone with unusual knowledge or ability.) Usually the problem isn't that such a person doesn't exist, but that there's no efficient way to find one among millions: Suppose there are 250 people in North America who would be ideal for a certain seeker, if only she could encounter them and identify them. 250 is a large number. Yet 250 is less than one per million! If she aggressively socializes in all the conventional ways and manages to contact and evaluate ten new people every day, she can expect to spend about 300 years finding the first of the 250! This has been an interest of mine for several years. I suspect that there are many techniques, which will help particular kinds of searches, but that there's no panacea. Networking by mail may be fine for getting information that letters can convey, but it's poor for finding a lover.

AUTHOR'S ADDRESS:

Please send all mail for me to:

PAT UNDERHILL
c/o Correspan,
P.O. Box 759,
Veneta OR 97487.

I'm usually in Oregon 6 to 7 months a year. When I'm away the mail just sits and waits, because I no longer have mail forwarded. (Too much got lost chasing me around.)

A LETTER FROM A TRAVELING NETWORKER

Winged Mercury Missive
Lynchburg VA

Dear Everybody,

I hope all goes well with you.

I got back on the road in December, 1986, and went thru NC and Atlanta before celebrating the Solstice in FL.

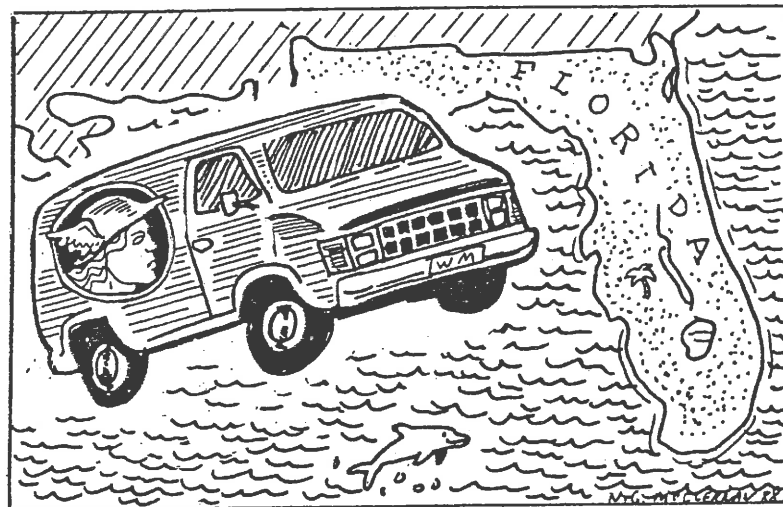
I made some good contacts in Tallahassee, where I stayed with friends over the holidays. I met Bob Broedel, a computer activist. He ran the complete list of Peace Net members for me. It opened up some other areas of interest, such as: what is the Saybrook Institute and Beyond War?

On December 31, I met a bunch of folks from Miesokoe Land Co-op and attended a fine New Year's party there in the rain. There were two live bands, lots of food, and nice folks by the hot tub. Things started to change for me after the 7 A.M. meditation, where 150 people came together. I was on a roll from that time. I felt better about my life and work than I had in months.

GAINESVILLE

I got on to Gainesville by mid-January, 1987, for what turned out to be an exciting and busy month. I rode to the Canaveral Peace March with 400 people and joined the 4000 at the gates of the Air Force base who were protesting the Trident II's testing. I couldn't say what we'd accomplished, except that we'd formed the largest gathering of its kind in the South. I did meet a lot of nice folks from the Seeds of Peace, who gave the logistic support to the Great Peace Walk. They decided to Winter over in Gainesville, and I spoke with several of them, though few had more than an

Gary Smith once worked himself into a position where he can now spend his time roving and providing network resources. *Winged Mercury Missive* is the sporadic newsletter he puts out. We wrote about him in Vol. 2, No. 2.



ecological view of the future. Thinking globally was still pretty foreign.

I met Stephen and Ina May Gaskin (of the Farm in TN) at a parenting weekend at a private school. They suggested that "people be political, be nice, show how, and keep up with what's going on." They were getting lots of magazines and video tapes at the Farm then.

I also met Jerry Mintz there that evening (February 13). He was visiting alternative schools and videotaping his travels on a porta-cam. Jerry and the Gaskins had a great schools directory. (See "RESOURCES", below, for the address.)

Around Gainesville there was lots of good music (Medicine Wind, David Bowie, others), Crystal Workers, New Frontier's people, a major university, the University of Florida, and a PhD from Harvard who had an exceptional class in Jewish mysticism. There were also lots of neat artists, bookstores, and a great massage school.

Hazel Henderson was living there, but I didn't meet her. Barbara Marx Hubbard lived there, too, 'till she moved to CO. I knew several good people in Gainesville, and I looked at two social-action events calendars, but I found no real networkers and futurists. Paul Hoffman, who had done that for years, finally left in frustration and moved to Berkeley, CA, where he plugged right into Peace Net. I gave him a whole bunch of leads to pursue.

I left Gainesville in mid-February to visit with relatives and work on the pile of mail waiting for me. I set my mind to explore the coasts of Florida.

The Tampa-Clearwater area interested me: I hadn't networked there yet, but I had some good names to check into. There didn't seem to be much going on in social movements, but holistic health was a big issue in those parts, and it looked as if the people there would run into all sorts of other neat stuff serendipitously.

In Miami I'd seen J. C. Pierce the Spring before (1986). I was pretty impressed by his blend of science and Auravedic knowledge.

I was staying closer to VA those days. Perhaps I would rent a house where good folks reside, in Floyd County, VA, and spend my summers there, at least, working on my next step.

A PHILOSOPHICAL DIGRESSION

The Western culture (?) of the past 500 years has done much to alienate people from their environment and from one another. They experience feelings of not being loved, of low self-esteem, and they labor under a high pressure to produce products and services and to "make payments." Many people are simply losing the capacity to enjoy life.

As people seek relief, we see what they reward: diversion. Witness TV, movies, popular music, mindless dance, many sports, drug addiction, and the big money scene. Members of Western society have lost their sense of ritual and connection to their roots. They've lost their familial and tribal senses of group purpose.

Most folks are looking to belong to something larger than themselves that gives them meaning and identity, be it a street gang, service club, church, spiritual group, or "New Age" movement. Some ethnic groups provide this connection as they look out for others of the "same blood". Many White Americans are seeking out ways to commune together, thus we see the rise of alternative living arrangements that foster alliances, village concepts, and co-operative situations; many are rural, and some urban. We need this sense of belonging if we're to live together in harmony.

A peaceful culture comes as conscious, loving adults teach their kids to be loving people with awareness and self-esteem. If we want a viable future, then we need to show effective options to the unbelievably ecology-threatening life we're now living.

Why not appeal to the prevailing desire for diversion? After my Gainesville trip, the life of the great philosopher and humorist Will Rogers was holding more of my interest. Why not bring his "cracker box" philosophy back to the surface and feed people ready-to-use ideas with a spoonful of fun and humor? Let's build amusement parks, take medicine shows out onto the road, or produce videos that give people a sense of hope as they learn what can be and how it can come to be.

Perhaps it's an idea whose time has come, using "cracker box" philosophy to demonstrate holistic health, conservation,

spiritual awareness, techniques of personal empowerment, and connectivity with all things. Some people live their lives like this, serving by example, but maybe it's time to reach out further and touch those who are ready for a better life, but who don't know where to look, or for what.

TO SUM IT ALL UP

Gainesville seemed to be a pretty activist area with some neat features for its citizens. People were motivating themselves to alternative social and political action. It was encouraging to see them involved, trying to improve their lives together. But then, I was seeing good things in other cities too, so I guess things happen all over. It's just a question of who's paying attention.

In love, light, and peace,

Gary

RESOURCES

Do you know of the **Directory of Holistic Medicine and Alternative Health Care Services in the U.S.**? It's edited by Shirley Linde and Dr. Donald J. Carrow, 1985. \$6.95 from Health Plus Publishers, PO Box 22001, Phoenix AZ 85028, ISBN 0-932090-18-4. It lists many chiropractors, holistic dentists, and MD's.

The Whole Again Resource Guide may have some good contacts: Sourcenet, PO Box 6767, Santa Barbara CA 93160.

Jerry Mintz, NCACS, RD 1, Box 378, Glenmore PA 19343, 215-458-5138.

Stephen & Ina May Gaskin, 156 Drake Lane, Summertown TN 38483, 615-964-2519.

Shirley MacLaine, c/o 1900 Avenue of the Stars, Suite 1230, Los Angeles CA 90067, 213-277-9002.

Peacenet, 1918 Bonita, Berkeley CA 94704, 415-486-0264.

Alternate Roots, 1083 Austin Ave, Atlanta GA 30307, 404-577-1079.

Community Soundings: A Journal of Community, East Wind Community, Tecumseh MO 65760, 417-679-4682, \$8/yr (1986), 4 issues. They reprint articles from other publications of interest and letters, sort of an *Utne Reader* of communities. Marcos Canyon was the editor in 1986.

Communities Magazine, 105 Sun Street, Stale IL 60919. This journal was getting more socially conscious.

Seeds of Peace, c/o PO Box 14232, Gainesville FL 32604.

Bob Broedel, PO Box 20049, Tallahassee FL 32316, 904-576-4906 (H), 904-644-6274 (W).

Paul Hoffman, c/o Lauri Triulzi, 3046 Wheeler St, Berkeley CA 94705, 415-841-8758.

Joel Goldstein, PO Box 5102, Gainesville FL 32602, 305-338-1981 (H), 305-328-3611 (W).

Reset, c/o Mike McCullough, 90 East 7th St, #3A, New York NY 10009, 212-254-3582.

Scott Anderson, c/o White Buffalo, PO Box 73, Woodstock NY 12498, 914-246-7763.

Barbara Marx Hubbard, PO Box 13503, Boulder CO 80308, 303-530-0891.

The **Quixote Center** offers some good info on Central American issues: PO Box 5206, Hyattsville MD 20782, 301-699-0042. Also, the **Nicaragua Network**, 2025 I St NW, Suite 1117, Washington DC 20006, 202-223-2328.

Some electronic bulletin boards:

FORNET, 408-646-8609: Focus on unusual phenomena and parapsychology.
UFONET, 206-722-5738: Listings of UFO sightings, and comments.
The **Private Sector** (2600), 201-366-4431: Info on phone systems.
Top of the **Rockies**, 303-963-3688:
Rainbow network conference.

Good luck!

Action Linkage was once author and futurist Bob Theobald's personal outreach instrument. Now it is an independent nonprofit organization with a very active board of directors and members who "meet" through monthly correspondence groups (see the back page ad for the book "Letter Groups").

The correspondence groups aren't the only thing unique about Action Linkage. It also has a philosophy of "open space." Here is Ann Weiser's set of "Agreements of the Open Space."

Agreements of the Open Space

- (1) We agree to experience each person as unique and as more than the sum of our roles and affiliations.
- (2) We agree to hear what each person has to say as their own legitimate concern, not to need them to see things our way, nor to feel pressed to change our opinions because of theirs.
- (3) We agree to listen non-judgmentally and caringly to what is behind a person's words as well as the words themselves, and to have compassion for the feelings, beliefs, and experiences that may have led them to say what they're saying.
- (4) We agree to operate in the spirit that no one has the exclusive right answer, but everyone is part of the answer. So our discussions are not aimed at determining who is right, but to make sure that all points of view are heard.
- (5) We agree to see disagreement, not as an unpleasant breach to be covered up or healed, but as a welcome manifestation of our diversity. We see that differences are necessary on the way to a more comprehensive view that includes possibilities none of us had to start with.
- (6) We agree to see each person as "in process," changing and growing, and to expect to see the person again but not necessarily the same problems or struggles again.
- (7) We agree to honor and to listen to the parts in ourselves and others that are not yet clear.
- (8) We agree to support each other in the difficult task of staying with the questions when the answers aren't there yet, of staying with the ambiguity and uncertainty when the clarity isn't there yet.

Ann Weiser, 537 Jones St #9175, San Francisco CA 94102

AL Face-to-Face Set for September

The next Action Linkage Face-to-Face meeting (National Conference) will happen over the weekend of September 30 - October 3, 1988, near Spokane, in Washington State.

We'll gather at Kirk's Lodge on the slopes of Mt. Spokane, on the Washington/Idaho border, about 35 minutes from Spokane International Airport. It's a beautiful natural setting, with hiking trails, horseback riding, mountain streams, fresh air, and gorgeous views. We chose a vacation-like setting to encourage you to bring your spouse and family along so they can feel like a part of things, because our work so needs their support! Not only that, but the setting will nourish us, body as well as mind.

We chose Kirk's Lodge also for its low cost, around \$25 per day per person for both food and lodging. This is a meeting among peers, so we've kept the fee low: \$75. There is a 10% charge for cancellation up to September 5 and a 25% charge for cancellation from the 5th to the 20th; after September 20 we can't give refunds at all.

The conference organizers are Bob Stijger and the Northwest Regional Foundation, longtime supporters of local action and community participation, and of Robert Theobald and Action Linkage.

The main meeting will go from Friday evening through Monday noon. Consultants for a Positive Future will have its annual Showcase meeting the day before, Thursday evening through Friday afternoon. For registration information, write: Northwest Regional Foundation, E. 525 Mission, Spokane, WA 99202.

Short Features

The Eleventh Commandment Newsletter

Published by:
The Eleventh Commandment
Fellowship
P.O. Box 14667
San Francisco, CA 94114

This newsletter deals with the combination of Christianity and ecology. The newsletter's logo includes the group's eleventh commandment: "The earth is the Lord's and the fulness thereof; thou shall not despoil the earth nor destroy the life thereon." This statement provides a glimpse into the fellowship's philosophies and ideas, as well as the newsletter's basic content. It also illustrates some of the group's solutions, or rather their directions toward solutions, for environmental problems.

The introductory issue No. 4 contained an explanation of its purpose and goals, essays and articles pertaining to the issues of religion and ecology, and listings of other information available through the fellowship. The back three issues may be obtained, for one dollar each, by writing the fellowship. To receive future issues, request placement on their mailing list. Donations are welcomed.

Green Revolution

Published by:
The School of Living
RD 7
York, PA 17402
Editorial address:
RR 1
Little Current, Ont POP 1KO
CANADA

This quarterly Libertarian newsletter

deals primarily with land and land usage from a Libertarian perspective. The articles and essays, with their decided angle, were interesting and informative, but they also served to educate the reader about this movement and its bottom line: DECENTRALIZE. The Spring 86 issue included articles, short pieces, quotes, announcements, information, etc., all centering around this common theme. A book review of *Uprooting War* by Brian Martin, Freedom Press, made for fascinating reading, with one of its assertions (derived from the book) being that peace activists should change their tack; they have much to gain by letting the power elite, i.e. governments, militaries, etc., know that they will not be allowed to maintain their power bases after the nuclear war. This, according to the author, will cause the power brokers to rethink their runaway motion towards such a holocaust and to reexamine what their power actually represents at present.

To the newsletter's credit was a well-written, thought-provoking article against decentralization by a Native American male with much to say about power, exploitation, wealth and a ruling class. GREEN REVOLUTION is available from The School of Living for \$6. Other literature is also available by writing The School of Living.

The Free Market Yellow Pages

From A to Z with liberty, or Libertarianism at least. This publication is a listing of people, products and professionals advertising themselves, their services or their products (and their belief in "free market economics") to like-minded others. It is setup similarly to a regular yellow pages, although it is quite thin and full of distant numbers and addresses (depending on your

location). It also includes advertisements, announcements of people and events within the movement, a personals column, and more.

THE FREE MARKET YELLOW PAGES is published by:

Dagny Enterprises,
PO Box 224,
Long Beach CA 90801-0224.

The 1986 edition is available for \$2; 10 or more copies at a discount of \$1 each.

From a Letter to Ann Weiser

by Bill Ellis

Your work in bringing the multilogue to its present status is a major achievement.

My own first contact with the concept was in 1950s what Dr Schein started the "Cosmic Ray Multilogue" to coordinate the work of a number of cosmic ray physicists around the world. We would send our needs to him, he'd send them to the others, we'd all take the desired readings and again distribute through him, and then do our individual analyses. Some were working on the structure of the earth's core, others on sunspots, others on cosmic structure. All benefited by exchange of data through the multilogue.

We also tried to use the multilogue under Vice President Humphrey for social purposes. Local non-governmental community programs exchanged information on local actions through a reproduced monthly letter scheme that was only partially successful. Paul Angel picked up the name and concept in the late 60s and tried again to get some "MLs" working without much success. You have certainly surpassed all of our efforts and your "M2Ms" are on the verge of being the major tools for grass roots/global transition.

Resource . . .

AGRICULTURE AND HUMAN VALUES (Vol. 2, No. 4) is a refereed interdisciplinary journal devoted to fostering increased awareness and appreciation of the anthropological, sociological, political, and philosophical issues surrounding agricultural practices and policies, natural resource use, and technologies involved in the production of food and fiber. It solicits papers reflecting empirical research, as well as more theoretical or conceptual work in the social sciences and philosophy: Richard P. Haynes, Editor. Published quarterly under a grant from the W. K. Kellogg Foundation. Rates (address Managing Editor): individual, \$20/yr; institution, \$30; students, \$15; foreign, add \$10. Ad rates available. From: Dept of Philosophy, University of Florida, Gainesville FL 32611.

COMPUTER DISABILITY NEWS: THE COMPUTER RESOURCE QUARTERLY FOR PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES (Vol. 1, No. 1, thru Vol. 4, No. 3) is an educational service of the National Easter Seal Society. It reports new developments and prints interviews. It reviews new hardware, software, and books. There's a list of data bases related to rehabilitation in Vol. 3, No. 4; a working draft of government/industry computer-accessibility guidelines stands out in Vol. 4, No. 1. Every issue has a calendar of events and a list of courses. Published quarterly. Subscriptions \$10/yr US, \$15 foreign. From: The National Easter Seal Society, 2023 W Ogden Ave, Chicago IL 60612.

CONNEXIONS DIRECTORY, a special 160-page issue of CONNEXIONS: A DIGEST OF RESOURCES AND GROUPS FOR SOCIAL JUSTICE (Vol. 10, No. 2-3), lists over 1,500 Canadian social justice organizations. You can use the table of contents to look up an organization by its

main area of interest. An entry number, made up of two letters from the chapter heading, e.g., Human Rights (Hu), Arts, Media, and Culture (Cu), precedes each listing. The Keyword Index uses these numbers to gather the entries together under more specific headings. You'll also find indexes which will enable you to find organizations by their names and geographic locations. Price: \$17.95. From: CONNEXIONS, 427 Bloor St W, Toronto Ont. CANADA, M5S 1X7, (416) 960-3903.

RESONANCE is a mighty bimonthly newsletter of a little-known organization safeguarding the continuity of a well-proven medical therapy that can truly cure chronic disease. You don't know about this medical therapy because it doesn't make use of the \$30 billion-a-year pharmaceutical industry. It's a medical therapy requiring that doctors be additionally trained in subjects which "modern" doctors know little about. This New Medicine: as inevitable to orthodox medicine as quantum physics was to Newtonian physics. Subscribe (circulation 4,600) and see what the future holds: \$25, or inquire. From: International Foundation for Homeopathy, Lanny Cotler, 1517 Casteel, Willits CA 95490, (707) 459-9550. This note submitted by Lanny Cotler.

FACTSHEET FIVE (#20) is an out-of-the-mainstream or "small press" magazine with hundreds of short reviews of current books, newsletters, and other self-published writings. It has news, editorials, a bulletin board section, and "Publisher's Choice" where the editor writes up his favorite publications. It also gives you plenty of titles and reviews of poetry, music, books, computer bulletin boards, and TV shows. Published 4/yr, it costs \$2/issue, up to 4 issues in advance, and it has advertising rates. From: Mike Gunderloy, 6 Arizona Ave, Rensselaer NY 12444, (518) 479-3086.

THE INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S WRITING GUILD was founded in 1976

and is an alliance open to all women who write, professionally or not, and to women otherwise concerned with the written word. It aims to help women express their ideas through writing, both for personal and professional growth. The IWWG is affiliated with the National Council of Women of the US and received the 1982 America the Beautiful Fund Raising Award. The organization has annual and semi-annual conferences and high-energy retreats. Members get manuscript referrals to literary agents, subscriptions to NETWORK (6 issues/yr), reduced registration fees at conferences, and access to health and life insurance at group rates. Members encourage and guide one another, and the organization offers emergency aid and scholarships. Membership, \$25/yr; foreign (except Mexico and Canada), \$31. From: IWWG Headquarters, POB 810, Gracie Station, New York NY 10028, (212) 737-7536.

CIRCLE OF LIGHT MAGAZINE is now in its fifth year serving as a free consumer magazine in the Dallas-Ft. Worth area. It publishes articles on current issues and emerging ideas. This monthly magazine also includes poetry, art and photography. The 50 past issues includes such topics as: "Marriage," "Raising Healthy Children," "Technology," "Music," "Color," "Intimacy," "Happiness in Relationships," "Men's Health Issue," "Women's Health Issue," and "Mind & Body." For sample issue, please mail \$2 to: Circle of Light Magazine, P.O.Box 901732, Dallas, Texas, 75390-1732. Phone(214) 279-1126. This note submitted by editor Ron Kendricks.

MAGGIE'S FARM: ALTERNATIVE NETWORK MAGAZINE (#34) serves a diverse worldwide network of citizen initiative groups and people who value new lifestyles. The magazine, based in Australia, solicits feedback from correspondents, artists and people in the field, and it collates news, data, and recent research from world alternative media. A volunteer team meets regularly to assemble the result. There's plenty of New Age

writing, e.g., "Psychic Roots & Past Lives Therapy," "Lost Civilisation on Mars," "The Hopi Legend," "Morphogenetic Fields." Some other titles: "Our Contaminated Planet," "Communal Lifestyles," "Breathe Deep: Air Pollution," "Babies Blinded by the Light," a series on computer networking. Also: goods and services info and ads, capsule reviews, a noticeboard, and forest updates. Published quarterly, \$8/yr; overseas, \$12. From: Maggie's Farm Media Centre, P.O. Faulconbridge 2776, Blue Mountains, AUSTRALIA.

MEDIA AND METHODS: EDUCATIONAL PRODUCTS, TECHNOLOGIES, AND PROGRAMS FOR SCHOOLS AND UNIVERSITIES (Vol. 23, No. 1) features articles such as "A Guide to Computer Products & Services," "Computer Hardware in Education-The New Generation," and a "School Year Calendar and Diary of Educational Conferences." Media reviews, software reviews, news capsules, and editorials appear as regular departments. Published bi-monthly during the school year. Subscriptions: \$27/yr, Canada and overseas, \$36; back issues \$6 when available. Offers ad space. From: The American Society of Educators, 1511 Walnut St, Philadelphia PA 19102, (215) 563-3501.

NEIGHBORHOOD CARETAKER: A journal of neighborhood health sciences seeks to develop the new interdisciplinary language of collaboration in the neighborhood sciences. A few articles: "Planetary Mind and Community Health Sciences", "Schizophrenia Hits All Classes Equally", "Community Development Corporations: A Resource That Works", "A Holistic Approach to Alcoholism", "Community Oriented Practice Centers." Published monthly. Subscription donations: \$25/yr, or a copy of your own work for abstracting. From: Institute of Cultural Affairs, 3038 Fall Creek Parkway N, Indianapolis IN 46205, (317) 925-9297.

OD PRACTITIONER: A PUBLICATION OF THE OD NETWORK (Vol. 17, No. 2) informs any organization that wants to

develop farther and faster. Some contents: a 7-page article on clear communication, a column "Consultants' Counsel(TM)" with info about contract law for consultants, some book reviews, and some conference news and announcements. No ads. Published quarterly, in San Antonio, for members of the OD Network. Single copies \$3 while supplies last. Membership: \$50/yr; over 65, \$25; full time students in degree program (employed 1/2 time or less), \$25. First class mail fees: Canada and Mexico, add \$6/person; overseas, add \$12. From: Linda Foschia, (201) 561-8677. Send materials to be published to: Don & Dixie Van Eynde, 15307 Umber Oak, San Antonio TX 78232, (512) 496-5893.

EXTRA!: THE NEWSLETTER OF FAIR is one of FAIR's (Fairness and Accuracy in Reporting) efforts to monitor the mainstream news and public affairs media and get them to include progressive viewpoints. Executive director Jeff Cohen cites a poll by Mori Research which suggested that the working press see biases against aggressive journalism, while the people with the power think there's too much negative, investigative stuff. FAIR's advisory board includes such luminaries as Ed Asner, Noam Chomsky, Allan Ginsberg, and Studs Terkel. They solicit clippings about underreported or misreported issues; they ask for tips, leads, suggestions, censored stories, short articles, and names of experts they may consult. Subscriptions are \$24/yr (8 issues, 12-16pp each, in 1987-88) individual, \$36 foreign, and \$45 institutional, and \$16 student, senior, and unemployed. Also, they offer a newsletter exchange deal. From: FAIR, 130 W 25th St, New York NY 10012, (212) 633-6700.

SOCIALLY RESPONSIBLE INVESTING: AN INTRODUCTION, a special issue (Vol. 13, No. 1, 24 pp.) of RAIN: JOURNAL OF THE CENTER FOR URBAN EDUCATION, tells how to apply social, as well as financial, criteria when making investment decisions. It interviews some experts on what SRI is and where it's going, on how a SRI mutual fund works, and on how to find a financial planner. The issue reviews 8

. . . Notes

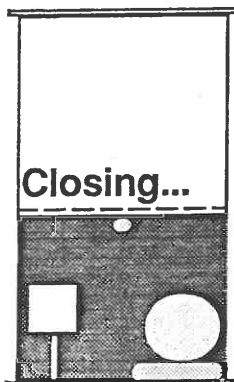
money market and mutual funds, and it has some articles: "Investing in Community," "Socially Responsible Banking: Chicago's South Shore Bank," and "Socially Responsible Investing and the Church." Its "Access" section lists directories, publications, and research organizations. Sorry, they didn't mark its price, but you can order it. From: Center for Urban Education, 1135 SE Salmon, Portland OR 97214, (503) 231-1285.

DONALD F. THIELKE (4904 N 48th St, Milwaukee WI 53218) sent in the following:

REVIEW OF RADICAL POLITICAL ECONOMICS (Magazine, Vol. 17/1-2): URPE National Office 155 W. 23 Street New York NY 20011 Phone- 212/691-5722

THE SHIBBOLETH OF PRODUCTIVITY (Resource text): "The Exhaustion of industrial age strategies in post-industrial society," by James E. Block -- "In March, 1964, thirty-two prominent economic and social critics issued a joint report, 'The Triple Revolution.' Noting the vast economic potential being unleashed by the computer age, this committee predicted a new era of productivity...recoverable only in small part through great and extended sacrifice? Many Americans in these tough economic times believe that traditional values alone will restore our economic vitality. Since this path is not succeeding, the need for reassessment of our 'productivity crisis' is urgent. ...the place to begin is with a consideration of the actual state of the American economy." (p. 160)

James E. Block, Political Science % DePaul University Chicago IL 60614 Phone not given



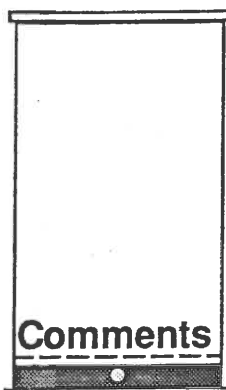
When I last wrote for this column, the Public Interest Media Project was just beginning to offer training and technical support to local nonprofit organizations in the use of microcomputers. Since then, we have taken on more clients and have joined a national network of training centers, the Technology Resources Consortium (TRC), which currently has 12 member organizations in different areas of the country. TRC is supported in part with grants from the Benton Foundation and from Apple Computers and will soon be operating a clearing house to assist the startup of new training organizations who want to provide programs similar to the current members. The TRC will enable its members to share training materials. And some of the training materials created by TRC members will be offered in the form of manuals to the general public. Current publications include a computerization "needs assessment" workbook that helps a group to determine how many computers it may need and a booklet that reviews a number of "fundraising" software systems.

Besides training nonprofits to use computers, the Media Project is also offering direct services to nonprofits in the graphic arts. This is now possible due in part to the work of our graphic artist, Nancy McClernan, (whose drawings you'll find in this and our previous issue) and in part to our second grant from Apple Computers. Our first grant was an Apple II+ computer that we use as a bulletin board system. This latest grant from Apple is a Macintosh SE computer with a built in hard drive which has enabled us to build up enough clients to warrant the purchase of a LaserWriter II printer. So we now can produce camera-ready typeset documents (this newsletter is an example of our work).

On the back page of this issue, you'll find an ad for the first publication that the Media Project has produced (again with Nancy's drawings and my typesetting) in cooperation with Action Linkage. We expect to continue to work with Action Linkage through the multilogues and in joint projects like the Letter Groups booklet.

If you have a small publishing project that involves networking, please keep us in mind. If we like the project enough, we may take on some of the cost involved. Otherwise, we are available to do typesetting and graphics on a fee-for-service basis to any nonprofit or community-based project.

As always, contributions to further our work are always welcome. We are a federally recognized nonprofit (501 c 3) and a charitable organization chartered under the laws of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania.



PUBLIC INTEREST MEDIA PROJECT TREASURER'S REPORT

FISCAL YEAR 1986-7
(August 1, 1986 thru July 31, 1987)

BEGINNING BALANCE		INCOME		EXPENSES	
August 1, 1986	\$ 154.92				
ADD: INCOME	4,290.23	Services	\$1,700.44	Copy Machine	\$2,031.88
		Contributions	903.19	Research	502.11
		Multilogues	851.70	Postage	368.98
AVAILABLE		ON Subscriptions	75.00	Supplies	277.72
Fiscal Year 1986-7	\$4,445.15	BBS Lists	30.00	Equipment	193.00
		Sample Requests	11.00	Telephone	157.99
LESS: EXPENSES	4,411.60	Miscellaneous	618.90	Multilogues	11.48
				Miscellaneous	868.44
ENDING BALANCE		TOTAL INCOME		TOTAL EXPENSES	
July 31, 1987	\$ 33.55	Fiscal Year 1986-7	\$4,290.23	Fiscal Year 1986-7	\$4,411.60

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Additional contributions to assist our work are welcome. All contributions are tax-deductible.

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Letter Groups

by Ann Weiser

**HOW TO START AND OPERATE A
MANY-TO-MANY COMMUNICATION SYSTEM
THROUGH THE MAIL**

edited by Stan Pokras
with thanks to Paul Angel

drawings by Nancy McCleman

Published by ACTION LINKAGE
in cooperation with
PUBLIC INTEREST MEDIA PROJECT

2nd Edition - Available from
Action Linkage
5825 Telegraph Ave Suite 45
Oakland CA 94609

Copies \$5 each,
bulk orders available, please write.

Dear Friends,

Often a group of people who share bonds of common interest and mutual support are separated geographically. These may be people who have met through a conference or other short-term gathering, or people who never met face-to-face but know that they form a community of interest.

This booklet presents a low-cost method of communication - useful for geographically disbursed groups.

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